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### BOOK REVIEWS.

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**PROBATE REPORTS ANNOTATED:** Containing Recent Cases of General Value Decided in the Courts of the Several States on Points of Probate Law. With notes and references. By Frank S. Rice, Counsellor at Law, author of "American Probate Law" and "Civil and Criminal Evidence." Vol. I. Baker, Voorhis & Company, New York.

Each volume of this valuable series contains about one hundred recent cases from the courts of last resort in the various States. These cases are carefully selected by an expert in probate law and each volume contains valuable monographic notes. The volumes appear about one each year. The importance of such a series will be readily recognized when it is considered that each year millions upon millions of dollars pass under the absolute control of probate jurisdiction in this country. This fact makes Probate Reports Annotated a most timely and useful work. What the modern lawyer in the multitude of his duties needs is to have in condensed form the authorities upon the subject under investigation. Vol. I contains monographic notes of the following subjects: General Doctrine of Estates Tail; Impeachment of Witnesses; Probate Jurisdiction; Undue Influence; Sale of Decedent's Property by Executor or Administrator; On Succession Taxes; On Depositions; The Doctrine of Charitable Trusts; Executory Devises; The Doctrine by Cy Pres; Monomania as Affecting Testamentary Capacity; On the Rule in Shelly's Case; Nature and Scope of the Doctrine of Perpetuities; Matters of Pedigree; Presumption that Property is Community; Title by Escheat; Liability of Executor for Attorney's Fees; Legitimation of Bastard by Subsequent Marriage of Parents; On the Construction and Interpretation of Wills; Title by Prescription—Adverse Possession; Ancestral Property; Implied Trusts; Principal and Ancillary Jurisdiction, How Far Independent; Doctrine of Election Examined; Parol Evidence in Relation to Ambiguities; Conditions Accompanying a Devise—Liability of the Devisee; On Remainders; When Damages will be Deemed Excessive; Doctrine of Equitable Conversion Examined; Continuance of Partnership; On Advancements.

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**L. R. A. CASES AS AUTHORITIES.** Applied, Developed, Strengthened, Limited, or in any way affected by later decisions that have cited these cases as precedents. Vol. 2. The Lawyers' Co-operative Publishing Company, Rochester, New York: 1905. \$5.50 per volume.

In our review of the first volume of this most useful series we expressed the hope that some industrious Virginia lawyer would compile a history of the Virginia cases so that their value might be ascertained without laborious research. The fact that a lawyer can now find an authority on either side of any proposition of law makes it manifestly of vital importance to be able to ascertain the value of cases cited as authority. This can only be done by tracing the history of the case. Some cases will be found to have been repeatedly approved by the courts of many jurisdictions, while other cases will be found to be disapproved or questioned. By consulting "L. R. A. Cases as Authorities" one can find just what has

been the subsequent history of any case reported in the series. For instance, take the Virginia case of *Blose v. Blair*, 87 Va. 117, reported in 11 L. R. A. 705. The work discloses that this case was subsequently distinguished in the case of *Wilkinson v. Merrill*, 87 Va. 520. The publication of the work under review greatly increases the value of the already invaluable *Lawyers' Reports Annotated*.

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**SUPPLEMENT TO THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF PLEADING AND PRACTICE.** Compiled under the editorial supervision of William M. McKinney. Vol. III. Edward Thompson Company, Northport, Long Island, New York: 1905.

This volume completes the supplement to this well-known series and deals with the subjects from Legatees to Writs. It is of the utmost importance to the practitioner to have the very latest authorities upon the subject under investigation, and in no branch is this more important than in pleading and practice, for if a mistake be here made it is the fault of the practitioner and therefore humiliating in the extreme. A lawyer who values his reputation should surround himself with every work which will aid him in arriving at correct conclusions in matters of pleading and practice. Hence, all owners of the *Encyclopedia of Pleading and Practice* will be delighted that the Thompson Company have brought down to date this most valuable publication.

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**AMERICAN RAILROAD RATES**, by Walter Chadwick Noyes, a Judge of the Court of Common Pleas in Connecticut; President of the New London Northern Railroad Company; Author of "The Law of Intercorporate Relations." Little, Brown & Company, Boston: 1905. \$1.50, net.

No book ever appeared at a more opportune time. The question it discusses is one of burning importance. No question is now so thoroughly agitating the public mind. The author is judge of one of the courts in Connecticut, is president of a railroad of importance, and director of several other railroads. The work contains an interesting comparison of American rates with those of foreign countries and discusses the question of Federal regulation of rates. The author admits the necessity of additional Federal legislation and holds that it should go so far as to provide for the making of rates by the Interstate Commerce Commission. He discusses the question under the following titles: Underlying Principles; Limitations of Rates; Making Rates; Classification and Tariffs; Discrimination, Competition and Combination; Movement of Rates; Comparison of Rates; State Regulation of Rates; Federal Regulation of Rates.

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**A MANUAL** Relating to Special Verdicts and Special Findings by Juries Based on the Decisions of all the States. By George B. Clementson, of the Wisconsin Bar. West Publishing Company, St. Paul, Minn.: 1905. 350 pp. \$3.75, net.

This is said to be the only text-book on the subject. It deals with the practice at trials by jury of requiring the jury to find specially on particular questions of fact involved in the case, instead of bringing in merely